

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Ann. §§ 23-92-401, 23-92-415, 23-92-419, 23-61-709, 23-61-108, and 25-15-201 et seq, and other applicable Arkansas laws or rules NOTICE is hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held on January 13, 2004 at 10:00 A.M. in the First Floor Hearing Room, Arkansas Insurance Department ("Department"), 1200 West Third Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, to determine whether the Arkansas Insurance Commissioner should adopt Rule and Regulation 81, "Employer Service Assurance Organizations." The purpose of this regulation is to implement Act 1750 of 2003 related to the licensure requirements at the Department for employer service assurance organizations, regulated under Ark. Code Ann. § 23-92-401 et seq. This emergency rule and proposed final rule prescribes the method and manner of licensing of employer service assurance organizations and establishes minimum standards for the conduct of such organizations. **Please Note** until a final rule and regulation is promulgated by the Department, all affected health carriers, organizations or persons subject to Ark. Code Ann. §23-92-401 shall abide by the attached Emergency Rule related to the manner of licensing of employer service assurance organizations. A copy of the Emergency Rule is attached to this notice. This Emergency Rule shall be in effect on this subject matter until a Final Rule is promulgated following the above scheduled hearing and comments period.

1. **All interested persons are encouraged to attend the Public Hearing and may appear and present, orally or in writing, statements, arguments or opinions on the proposed Rule. All licensees and other interested persons are responsible for notifying all their personnel, agents, and employees about this Public Hearing.**
2. **Persons wishing to testify should notify the Legal Division as soon as possible, and are requested to submit intended statements in writing in advance.**
3. **Direct your inquiries to the undersigned in the Legal Division at (501) 371-2820.**